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Rep. Garrett Tells Senate Democrats: Stop Playing Politics with Judicial Nominations

WASHINGTON—On Wednesday, Rep. Scott Garrett (NJ-05) lashed out at Senate Democrats for continuing to prevent President Bush’s judicial nominees from receiving a vote on the Senate floor.

“The stall tactics of the Senate Democrats are not just outrageous,” Rep. Garrett said, “they fly in the face of history.”

Prior to this year, the record number of cloture votes on a judge was two. On DC Circuit Court nominee Miguel Estrada, the Senate had seven cloture votes before Estrada withdrew his name due to exhaustion.

Prior to this year, no judicial nominee brought to the Senate floor failed on a filibuster.

This year, four nominees with majority support have thus far failed due to Democrat filibusters, including Miguel Estrada, Priscilla Owen, William Pryor, and Charles Pickering. In addition, Democrats have threatened filibusters on many more nominees.

“I am appalled and disgusted by the Senate Democrat’s actions, Rep. Garrett said. “By not allowing even a vote, the Democrats are holding hostage our democratic process.”

On Wednesday, November 12th, at 6:00pm, the Senate will begin a historic, non-stop debate on judicial nominations, the first such all-nighter in more than 11 years. Republicans organized this overnight debate to bring national attention to Democrat delay tactics—which are now spilling over into the appropriations process.

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